

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

*The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application.*

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)

10. (**Currently Amended**) A process for preparing an isolated polypeptide ~~corresponding to the protein encoded by the polynucleotide sequence SEQ.ID.NO. 9 or SEQ.ID.NO. 13 or by a sequence complementary to the polynucleotide sequence SEQ.ID.NO. 9, said isolated polypeptide having at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH and being associated with the modulation of cell proliferation, said preparation process comprising the following steps:~~
- (a) ~~culture,~~ culturing under suitable conditions to obtain the expression of said polypeptide, ~~[[of]]~~ a host cell transformed or transfected with an expression vector comprising an isolated polynucleotide comprising ~~[[the]]~~ a polynucleotide sequence with at least 95% homology to the polynucleotide sequence of SEQ.ID.NO. 9 or SEQ.ID.NO. 13, the sequence complementary to the polynucleotide sequence SEQ.ID.NO. 9 or SEQ.ID.NO. 13, said isolated polypeptide having at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH protein and is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation, and
  - (b) ~~isolation of~~ isolating the polypeptide from the host cell cultures.

Claims 11-22 (**Cancelled**)

23. (**New**) An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4.
24. (**New**) An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 5.

25. **(New)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence with at least 95% homology with the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH protein and is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation.
26. **(New)** An expression vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 25.
27. **(New)** A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 26.
28. **(New)** A method of making a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 27 under suitable conditions to obtain expression of said polypeptide.
29. **(New)** The method of claim 28, further comprising isolating said polypeptide from the host cell culture.
30. **(New)** An isolated polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 25.
31. **(New)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence with at least 95% homology with the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 9, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH protein and is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation.
32. **(New)** An expression vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 31.
33. **(New)** A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 32.
34. **(New)** A method of making a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 33 under suitable conditions to obtain expression of said polypeptide.

35. **(New)** The method of claim 34, further comprising isolating said polypeptide from the host cell culture.
36. **(New)** An isolated polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 31.
37. **(New)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 11.
38. **(New)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 12.
39. **(New)** An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleic acid sequence with at least 95% homology with the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 13, wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide with at least one immunological and/or biological activity characteristic of a protein binding human GHRH protein and is associated with the modulation of cell proliferation.
40. **(New)** An expression vector comprising the isolated polynucleotide of claim 39.
41. **(New)** A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 40.
42. **(New)** A method of making a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 41 under suitable conditions to obtain expression of said polypeptide.
43. **(New)** The method of claim 42, further comprising isolating said polypeptide from the host cell culture.
44. **(New)** An isolated polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide of claim 39.